

Appln No. 10/760,256
Amdt. Dated April 7, 2005
Response to Office Action of March 23, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Election/Restriction Requirement of March 23, 2005 the Applicant elects the Examiner's indicated Species 1 shown in Figure 16.

It is respectfully submitted that at least pending claims 1-9, 12-16, 31, 32, 37-40, 48 and 49 are readable on Species 1. As admitted by the Examiner, pending claim 1 is generic to all of the Examiner's indicated Species 1 to 6.

It is respectfully submitted that Examiner's indicated Species 3 shown in Figure 13 and Species 5 (erroneously listed as "4" in the text of the Requirement) shown in Figure 12 are not patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. This is because, Figures 12 and 13 merely show opposite views of the same slitter module of the present invention. This is supported at page 35, lines 44-45 and page 42, lines 7-31 of the present specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the required election of species has been made. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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